



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

January 23, 2023

STEVEN MARTIN JR., TREASURER
JIM BANKS FOR CONGRESS, INC.
PO BOX 11431
FORT WAYNE, IN 46858-1431

Response Due Date
02/27/2023

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00577999

REFERENCE: 12 DAY PRE-GENERAL REPORT (10/01/2022 - 10/19/2022)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action.** Additional information is needed for the following 4 item(s):

1. Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions that appear to be from a corporation(s) and/or labor organization(s) (see attached). 52 U.S.C. § 30118(a) (formerly 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a)) and 11 CFR § 103.3(b) prohibit the receipt of contributions from corporations and labor organizations unless made from separate segregated funds established by the corporations and labor organizations. The Commission notes your additional explanation regarding the committee's corrective action taken for all of these contributions.

If any apparently prohibited contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you must amend your original report with clarifying information.

If you have received prohibited contributions, you must make a refund within 30 days of the treasurer becoming aware of the illegality of the contribution. (11 CFR § 103.3(b)(1) and (2))

If you have not already done so, please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of any refund checks. Refunds must be reported on a Schedule B supporting Line 20(a) of the report covering the period in which the refund is made. (11 CFR § 104.8(d)(4))

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of prohibited contributions, your prompt action to refund the

BANKS FOR SENATE

Page 2 of 5

prohibited amount will be taken into consideration.

2. Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions that appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act (see attached). The Commission notes your additional explanation regarding the committee's corrective action taken for all of these contributions.

An individual or a political committee other than an authorized committee or a qualified multi-candidate committee may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$2,900 per election. An authorized committee may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$2,000 per election. A qualified multi-candidate committee and all affiliated committees may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$5,000 per election. The term "contribution" includes any gift, subscription, loan, advance, or deposit of money or anything of value made by any person for the purpose of influencing any election for federal office. (52 U.S.C. § 30116(a) and (f) (formerly 2 U.S.C. § 441a(a) and (f)); 11 CFR §§ 110.1(b), (e) and (k), and 102.13(c))

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you must amend your original report with clarifying information.

Please be reminded that all refunds, redesignations and reattributions must be made within 60 days of receipt of the contribution. To date, one or more of the apparent excessive contributions have not been refunded, redesignated, or reattributed.

For reattributions, the funds can be retained if, within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount was properly reattributed to another person. An excessive contribution is considered properly reattributed if (1) the contributors provide the committee with written documentation, signed by each contributor, authorizing a reattribution and indicating the amount of the contribution to be attributed to each contributor; or (2) the committee reattributes by presumption the excessive portion of the contribution if the contribution was made on a written instrument from a joint account and was signed by only one of the account holders. In this case, the treasurer must notify the contributors in writing within 60 days of receiving the contribution that the committee intends to reattribute the excessive portion and must give the contributor who signed the check an opportunity to request a refund. (11 CFR § 110.1(k)(3)(ii)(B))

For redesignations, the funds can be retained if, within 60 days of receipt, the

BANKS FOR SENATE

Page 3 of 5

excessive amount was properly designated for a different election. An excessive contribution is considered properly redesignated if (1) the committee obtains signed written documentation from the contributor(s) authorizing the redesignation of the contribution for another election, provided that the new designation does not exceed the limitations on contributions made with respect to that election; or (2) the committee redesignates by presumption the excessive portion of the contribution for another election, provided that the new designation does not exceed the limitations on contributions made with respect to that election. In this case, the treasurer must notify the contributor of the redesignation in writing within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt of the contribution. The notification must give the contributor an opportunity to request a refund. (11 CFR § 110.1(b)(5)(ii)(B)) A contribution can only be redesignated to a previous election to the extent that the contribution does not exceed the committee's net debts outstanding for that election. (11 CFR § 110.1(b)(3)(i))

If the foregoing conditions for reattributions or redesignations are not met within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount must be refunded. (11 CFR § 103.3(b)(1))

If you have not already done so, please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide photocopies of any refund checks and/ or letters reattributing or redesignating the contributions in question. Refunds are reported on Line 20(a), (b), or (c), as applicable, of the Detailed Summary Page and on a supporting Schedule B of the report covering the period in which they are made. Redesignations and reattributions are reported as memo entries on Schedule A of the report covering the period in which the authorization for the redesignation and/or reattribution is received. (11 CFR § 104.8(d)(2), (3) and (4))

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of excessive contributions, your prompt action to refund or redesignate and/or reattribute the excessive amount will be taken into consideration.

3. Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions that appear to be from a limited liability corporation(s) (LLC) (see attached). The Commission notes your additional explanation regarding the committee's corrective action taken for all of these contributions. 11 C.F.R. §110.1(g) allows the receipt of contributions from LLCs providing the LLC is treated as a partnership for tax purposes, and has not elected to be treated as a corporation by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Both LLCs that claim corporate status and those that are publicly traded would be treated as corporations for FECA purposes.

BANKS FOR SENATE

Page 4 of 5

Please amend your report to clarify if the LLCs in question are treated as partnerships. If any apparently prohibited contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you must amend your original report with clarifying information.

If you have received prohibited contributions, you must make a refund. (11 CFR § 103.3(b)(1)) The refund must be made within 30 days of the treasurer becoming aware of the illegality of the contribution. (11 CFR § 103.3(b)(2))

If you have not already done so, please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of any refund checks. Refunds must be reported on a Schedule B supporting Line 20(a) of the report covering the period in which the refund was made. (11 CFR § 104.8(d)(4))

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of prohibited contributions, your prompt action to refund the prohibited amount will be taken into consideration.

4. Schedule A supporting Line 12 of your report discloses transfers from House Conservatives Trust that appear to be received through joint fundraising efforts. However, House Conservatives Trust is not disclosed as a joint fundraising representative on your Statement of Organization. Please amend your Statement of Organization to disclose the joint fundraising representative as an authorized committee of the candidate or amend your report to provide clarifying information. (11 CFR §102.2(b)(1)(i) and 11 CFR §102.17(b)(2))

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.**

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. For information about the report review process or specific filing information for your committee type, please visit www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees. For more information about Requests for Additional Information (RAFI), why you received a letter, and how to respond, please visit

BANKS FOR SENATE

Page 5 of 5

www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/request-additional-information. Should you have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1161.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Dobi". The script is cursive and fluid.

Michael Dobi
Sr. Campaign Finance & Reviewing Analyst

Apparent Excessive, Prohibited, and Impermissible Contributions
Jim Banks for Congress, Inc. (C00577999)

Apparent Excessive Contributions from Individuals

| Contributor Name | Date | Amount | Election |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Hoffman, Taeko | 6/9/22 | \$400.00 | G2022 |
| Hoffman, Taeko | 6/29/22 | \$500.00 | G2022 |
| Hoffman, Taeko | 7/14/22 | \$400.00 | G2022 |
| Hoffman, Taeko | 8/1/22 | \$300.00 | G2022 |
| Hoffman, Taeko | 8/15/22 | \$500.00 | G2022 |
| Hoffman, Taeko | 8/30/22 | \$300.00 | G2022 |
| Hoffman, Taeko | 9/14/22 | \$400.00 | G2022 |
| Hoffman, Taeko | 9/29/22 | \$500.00 | G2022 |
| Hoffman, Taeko | 10/5/22 | \$200.00 | G2022 |
| Hoffman, Taeko | 10/17/22 | -\$400.00 | G2022 |
| Hoffman, Taeko | 10/19/22 | \$350.00 | G2022 |
| | | | |
| Slepian, Linda J | 5/10/22 | \$1,200.00 | G2022 |
| Slepian, Linda J | 6/29/22 | \$250.00 | G2022 |
| Slepian, Linda J | 8/4/22 | \$500.00 | G2022 |
| Slepian, Linda J | 8/18/22 | \$500.00 | G2022 |
| Slepian, Linda J | 8/19/22 | \$250.00 | G2022 |
| Slepian, Linda J | 9/16/22 | \$650.00 | G2022 |
| Slepian, Linda J | 9/28/22 | \$500.00 | G2022 |
| Slepian, Linda J | 10/3/22 | \$1,025.00 | G2022 |
| Slepian, Linda J | 10/12/22 | \$425.00 | G2022 |
| Slepian, Linda J | 10/17/22 | -\$425.00 | G2022 |
| Slepian, Linda J | 10/17/22 | -\$950.00 | G2022 |
| | | | |
| Steel, Mcdowell | 7/7/22 | \$300.00 | G2022 |
| Steel, Mcdowell | 7/11/22 | \$50.00 | G2022 |
| Steel, Mcdowell | 7/27/22 | \$35.00 | G2022 |
| Steel, Mcdowell | 7/27/22 | \$150.00 | G2022 |
| Steel, Mcdowell | 8/15/22 | \$450.00 | G2022 |
| Steel, Mcdowell | 8/29/22 | \$500.00 | G2022 |
| Steel, Mcdowell | 9/14/22 | \$250.00 | G2022 |
| Steel, Mcdowell | 9/28/22 | \$750.00 | G2022 |
| Steel, Mcdowell | 10/5/22 | \$1,000.00 | G2022 |
| Steel, Mcdowell | 10/19/22 | \$500.00 | G2022 |

Contributions from Possible Prohibited Entities

| Contributor Name | Date | Amount | Election |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| B-Favored LLC | 10/13/22 | \$250.00 | G2022 |

Apparent Excessive, Prohibited, and Impermissible Contributions
Jim Banks for Congress, Inc. (C00577999)

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|------------|-------|
| Farm Building Supply LLC | 10/19/22 | \$2,900.00 | G2022 |
| Graber Box And Pallet | 10/19/22 | \$2,900.00 | G2022 |
| J.R. Graber & Sons LLC | 10/19/22 | \$2,900.00 | G2022 |